

18 April 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Special Group (CI) Meeting, 18 April 1963

1. Report of Engel's.
2. Report of Forrestal on South Vietnam.
 - a. Any action directed toward political changes will be highly dangerous. No alternate political arrangement in sight.

Two areas of improving:

1. Ways and means of improving our techniques of persuasion of Diem government--sometimes US wants too much control, i.e., control of parties.

2. Other areas we should be more forceful i.e., foreign relations.

- b. Agency and Military does not have the plans developed to handle an unforeseen situation such as assassination or coup.

ACTION: Discuss this ^{force} ~~force~~ of political action with Helms and Colby.

3. Murrow - Re Thailand Transmitters.

Thais have a 100 kw transmitter on order. Australians have two 250 being made. Neither ready for two years. Therefore, Murrow recommends borrowing an Army 50 kw unit now available at annual cost of \$350,000 per year - USIA cannot budget - effort will be made to have Army finance.

JAM/bd (from handwritten notes)